

Monica Valiente is a student at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Monica Valiente is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Monica Valiente for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THE  
FALLEN SOLDIER ARMY SER-  
GEANT (SGT) CHRISTOPHER  
ROGER BELL

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen soldier Army Sergeant (SGT) Christopher Roger Bell who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on June 4, 2011, during Operation Enduring Freedom. SGT Bell was killed when an improvised explosive device hit his convoy in Laghman Province, Afghanistan. Also killed were Sergeant (SGT) Joshua David Powell, Sergeant (SGT) Devin Arielle Snyder, and Specialist (SPC) Robert Lee Voakes, Jr.

SGT Bell was assigned to the 164th Military Police Company, 793rd Military Police Battalion, 3rd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

SGT Bell, a Golden, Mississippi native, was 21 years old at the time of death. He joined the Army in July 2008 after graduating from Tremont High School in Tremont, Mississippi, and served at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, before being stationed in Alaska in January 2009.

"If he saw that someone needed help, he did not hesitate to step in and lend a hand," said Robert Worthington. "He always put others before himself. SGT Bell strived for perfection in every aspect of life, and knowing that perfection was out of reach, he still never stopped trying."

He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart and Good Conduct Medal, NATO Medal, and Combat Action Badge. He was also awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat and Special Skill Badge, Basic Marksmanship Qualification Badge, and Overseas Service Bar.

On June 17, 2011, SGT Bell was buried with full military honors at the Living Faith Tabernacle Cemetery in Columbus, Mississippi.

SGT Bell is survived by his wife, Samantha Lucas Bell; daughter, Lana Nicole Bell; his parents, Timothy and Barbara Bell; and brothers, Zachary and Timothy Bell. He is also survived by his maternal grandparents, James and Mary Wooten; his paternal grandmother,

Judith Pitcher; his mother and father-in-law, Vera and Roger Lucas; and his brother-in-law, Roger Lucas.

SGT Bell's service and sacrifice will always be remembered.

HONORING NATIONAL CANCER  
SURVIVORS DAY AND THE  
SALISBURY VISITING NURSE AS-  
SOCIATION

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Cancer Survivors Day and to honor the cancer survivors and medical professionals gathered in Salisbury, Connecticut who are champions in the fight against cancer.

Cancer has touched all of our lives in some way, and there are more than 15 million survivors in our country. Whether we have seen family, friends, or neighbors fight the disease, they have shown us tremendous courage and fortitude. Their perseverance and commitment to a living fully after diagnosis is an inspiration to us all. Today's celebration in Salisbury makes a powerful statement about our community's commitment to those in need of support and our goal to improve the lives of those who have been diagnosed.

In Connecticut, we are lucky to have leaders in medical treatment and patient care. The Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association has been serving the people of northwestern Connecticut for over a century. These professionals both provide high quality care to patients and address their personal needs, often ensuring they can remain in the safety and comfort of their own home. It is dedicated health care professionals like these who support cancer patients and their families through treatment and to lead a fulfilling life. Each day, the nurses, social workers, and health care professionals of our community make a difference in the lives of our neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, National Cancer Survivors Day is a global event that reminds us of the courage shown by cancer patients and of the everyday compassion that helps those who have been diagnosed. It is fitting and proper that we honor the survivors and care providers gathered in Salisbury, Connecticut today and celebrate their lives and work.

HONORING STEVE HARDY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mayor Steve Hardy, a beloved member of the Vacaville community, who passed away this May.

Mr. Hardy was born in San Francisco, and served six years in the Navy from 1960 to 1966 as a radar operator on a destroyer. He then returned home and worked as a San Francisco police officer for five years before leaving that position to become a public policy specialist in Sacramento.

He served as the Staff Director for the California State Senate Committee on Governmental Organization for 19 years. From 1980 to 1985, Mr. Hardy was an advocate for the California State Employees Association, the union of California's state workers.

Mr. Hardy served as Chairman of the Solano County Drug Abuse Advisory Council in 1978 and 1979, and as a member of the Vacaville Human Services Commission from 1977 through 1979.

He also served as a Vacaville Unified School Board Member from 1987 through 1991 where, among other positions, he served as its President. Mr. Hardy was elected to the Vacaville City Council in 2002, where he served two terms. In 2007 he was appointed director of the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control by then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, which led to his stepping down as a city council member. He was elected Mayor of Vacaville in 2010 and served one term.

Mayor Hardy was an excellent representative for the Vacaville community. He helped lead the city through the Great Recession, improve local surface transportation, and was always able to take a principled approach to the most critical challenges and decisions the Council faced.

Steve Hardy's loss leaves a major void in the community. Mr. Hardy's wife of 46 years, Jerri Hardy, passed away in March 2012. He is survived by a son, Stephen; and a daughter, Shannon. The Vacaville community mourns Steve's passing and remembers his selfless commitment to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAINT  
PARIZE-LE-CHÂTEL, FRANCE

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2017*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the people of Saint Parize-le-Châtel, France as they commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of American troops during World War I.

During the Great War, Saint Parize-le-Châtel was the location of the Mars-sur-Allier Army Hospital which housed more than 40,000 wounded soldiers while it was in operation. Thus a deep and abiding relationship was established and continues to embody the close bond that the United States and France have maintained since the American Revolution.

This year, on the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of American troops to their town, the people of Saint Parize-le-Châtel are coming together to inaugurate a memorial that is dedicated to American servicemen and women who cared for their wounded comrades in arms at Mars-sur-Allier. The commitment of the Saint Parize-le-Châtel community to preserving and celebrating this history is a testament to the deeply held values of liberty, equality, and fraternity by both French and Americans alike. It is at times like this when we should all take a moment to remember and thank those who have risen, time and again, to defend these shared values throughout history.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Saint Parize-le-Châtel on this joyous occasion. I ask